



Fact Sheet:



California's Youth Pilot Program (Assembly Bill 1741)

In 1993 Assembly Bill (AB) 1741 (Chapter 951, Statutes of 1993) established the Youth Pilot Program. In 2000 Senate Bill 1352 extended the Youth Pilot Program to July 2004. The Youth Pilot Program authorizes six California counties to blend various children and family services funds to support implementation of innovative strategies at the local level to provide comprehensive, integrated services to children and families. The six pilot counties selected through a competitive process are Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Marin, Placer, and San Diego.

The Youth Pilot Program places a strong emphasis on local planning and decision making as to the best use of human service funds to support the integration of services. AB 1741 required each selected county to conduct a community needs assessment involving consumers and providers to better understand the specific needs of the target populations or geographic areas that the pilot program would serve. County boards of supervisors were required to establish broad-based, collaborative structures (coordinating councils) to facilitate the development of shared visions and goals designed to meet identified community needs.

At a minimum, each coordinating council must include local officials from the fields of education, juvenile justice, and health and human services, as well as

representatives of service providers, labor organizations, and service recipients. County coordinating councils are responsible for developing plans for implementing the pilot program in their counties and designing strategies for meeting their community needs through blended funding, integrated services, and innovative programs. Blended funds, which may include public and private monies, must support services to high-risk, low-income, multi-problem youth and families.

To measure the effectiveness of local programs in achieving established goals and meeting identified community needs, each coordinating council, with community involvement, has selected specific outcomes, to be monitored throughout the term of the pilot program. Logical, reliable, and measurable indicators must support these outcomes.

Ultimately, the Youth Pilot Program may provide models for the implementation of service delivery systems that are locally controlled, family-focused, prevention-oriented and outcome-based.

A final evaluation report on the program is due to the Governor and Legislature by June 30, 2003.